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BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW HEAD OF HUNGARIAN AVH

Little is known in Hungary of the background of Laszlo Piros, who is Gabor Peter's successor as head of the AVH (Allamvedelmi Hatosag, State Security Authority). An AVH member of long standing, Piros is not Jewish and has the rank of major general. He completed much of his service abroad and was recently stationed on the border of Yugoslavia. His training in the USSR prepared him to arrange border incidents and to collect evidence pertinent to such incidents. Piros organized the "Titoist spy affair" personally on the spot.

It was also Piros who arranged the purges within the AVH which led to the arrests of Gyula Decsi, Istvan Timar, and Lieutenant Colonel Csapo. While Piros was still a lieutenant colonel of the AVH, he conducted the investigation of Cardinal Mindszenty.

Many AVH members have been retired unexpectedly of late. These retired members remain under AVH supervision, but the Ministry of Domestic Trade has the right to place them with important industrial enterprises or artisans' cooperatives, which must pay their salaries thenceforth. Although the retirement means a demotion, these former members are considered still useful enough to act as industrial informers.

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